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SUBJECT: JOINT WEEKA NO. 5

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REPORTER

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NAME OF OFFICER & OFFICE SYMBOL	[illegible]	DATE OF ACTION	2/14/62
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EXTERNAL - POLITICAL

1. US-Soviet Relations. Moscow seized upon the 80th anniversary of the birth of President Franklin D. Roosevelt to stress the importance of US-Soviet relations, plainly calling upon President Kennedy to follow in FDR's footsteps. Khrushchev sent a message to Mrs. Roosevelt. Both Pravda and Izvestiya carried articles which described Roosevelt as a skillful defendant of bourgeois class interests, but a realist who favored peaceful coexistence with the USSR. The Soviets have made a tradition of using Roosevelt as a positive symbol in US-Soviet relations and it is not surprising that they made so much of the 80th anniversary of his birth. However, the language of Khrushchev's message seemed designed not only to appeal to Americans, but also to underline differences with the Chinese on overall bloc policy. T it may reflect Soviet concern about the general status of US-Soviet relations against a background of continuing troubles within the bloc.

The Soviet press briefly reported that Izvestiya editor and Khrushchev's son-in-law Adzhubei had lunch with the President on January 30.

Parallel with these gestures which created an impression of a certain relief in US-Soviet tension, the Soviet press stepped-up propaganda against what it describes as the dark or cold war forces in the US and in which Secretary Rusk is being increasingly depicted as the leading personality. The Secretary was assigned a particularly sinister role at the Punta del Este Conference, was compared to John Foster Dulles, was accused of practising brinksmanship, and was generally pictured as a creature of monopoly capital and the representative of Rockefeller interests in Washington.

Soviet press treatment of US space program developments presented the lunar shot as over-ambitious and implied that the orbital flight scheduled for January 27 was postponed for psychological reasons resulting from failure of the lunar shot to achieve its objectives. References to the 1959 Soviet lunar shot were prominent and the press claimed that even if the US can put a man in orbit and bring him back to earth successfully, this would not represent such a great scientific and technical achievement as the Titov flight. Press coverage suggested that the Soviets are highly sensitive to public psychological implications of space developments both in the USSR and abroad.

2. Soviet-Chinese Relations. The war of words between Moscow and Peiping was continued in the pages of Soviet theoretical journals without indication of either increase or decrease in Soviet-Chinese tension and still in the form of indirect, abstract, or anti-Albanian diatribes. The announcement that the CPSU Central Committee will meet to discuss agricultural problems on March 5 is regarded as having some significance for Soviet-Chinese relations by many western diplomats in Moscow.

3. Punta del Este. The Soviet press headlined the outcome of the OAS meeting as a serious blow to US prestige. To support this, they seized on the abstention by six OAS states in the vote on the resolution which excluded Cuba from the hemisphere organization, emphasizing that the six represent 70 percent of the total Latin American population. No reference was made to the other resolutions.

However, the TASS reportage of DORTICOS' final speech somewhat belied the confident characterization of the conference results as a US defeat. This coverage left the impression that the conference marked a historic landmark for the OAS and that Cuba is in a more isolated position -- temporarily at least -- and faced a long struggle with Washington.

4. Berlin/Germany. Ambassador THOMPSON met with Soviet Foreign Minister GROMYKO on February 2 for the third time in the current series of "probes."

Following last week's flurry of press commentaries on Berlin and Germany, the press in the present reporting period again lapsed into silence on this subject. A few squibs appeared criticizing the visit of President LUEBKE to West Berlin as a "provocation," and some routine material on German militarism was published in miner paper feature articles. The campaign against General HEUSINGER sharply declined.

5. Congo. A sustained campaign is being carried on in the Soviet press demanding that drastic measures be taken to save the life of Gizenga. Commentaries, written public protests and reports of meetings of various public, industrial and educational organizations all stressed that current events in the Congo bear a suspicious similarity to those which proceed the murder of Patrice Lumumba. The campaign is marked by the unequivocal support rendered to Gizenga. At the same time, however, commentaries cautiously avoid direct criticism of the Adoula Government. Instead, responsibility for the reportedly unfavorable developments in the Congo is being attributed to the machinations of the Western monopolists under the leadership of the US and to the leadership of the UN Secretariat and UN officials who are directing UN operations in the Congo.

The current campaign is apparently designed (1) to lay the groundwork for gaining credit if Gizenga survives his present ordeal, (2) to refurbish the image of the Soviet Union as the only true defender of Congolese independence and unity, and (3) to rationalize developments in the Congo to world Communist audiences.

Lagos Conference: Soviet reporting on the Lagos Conference has been sporadic and ambivalent. Criticism was not directed at the states attending the conference but, as might be expected, at the "imperialist circles," who were accused of having made desperate attempts to split the national-liberation movement of the African peoples and to set the representatives of the former British colonies against the delegates of the former French possessions. According to the Soviet press, the question of the attendance of the Provisional Government of Algeria was raised at the instigation of Paris; and the fact that no invitation was extended to the Provisional Government explained in large part why the Casablanca powers along with such states as Libya and Sudan did not attend the conference.

6. Nuclear Testing. In its coverage of the last sessions of the nuclear test talks, the Soviet press claimed that the tactics of the US and the UK were purposely designed to rupture the negotiations. Moreover, the Soviets alleged that the Western proposal to merge the test talks with the 18-nation disarmament negotiations was aimed at diverting the attention of the newly established

forum from its main task of working out an agreement on complete and general disarmament. Commentaries on the nuclear test talks contrasted the reasonableness of the Soviet November 28 proposals with Western insistence on an international control system which Soviet media continued to characterize as an avenue for intelligence and espionage on Soviet territory.

INTERNAL - POLITICAL

7. Leadership: "Anti-Party Group". The week began to the echo of reports published in Rome, in the organ of the Italian Communist Party, l'Unita, that their respective primary Party organizations had (1) exculpated MOLOTOV of the charges brought against him at the XXII CPSU Congress in view of his service to the cause during the Revolution, and (2) excluded MALENKOV, KAGANOVICH, and SHEPILOV from the Party (WEEKA No. 4). It ended in a flurry of reports evoked by a remark Izvestiya editor A. I. ADZHUBEI is said to have made during the luncheon given him at the White House on January 30, that Molotov is confined to the Kremlin Hospital, suffering from the effects of a heart attack and from pneumonia.

As is usual in the case of reports of the illnesses of Soviet political personalities, it was impossible to obtain confirmation that Molotov is indeed ill and in the hospital. A Reuters correspondent went to the Kremlin Hospital, which is located, not in the Kremlin, but at Nos. 26-28, Sivtsev Vrazhek Street, a mile and a half away. Hospital officials denied that anyone named Molotov was a patient there.

Meanwhile, there has been further movement on the "anti-Party group". Molodoy Kommunist, No. 1, 1962 (signed to the press January 13, 1962; received by the Embassy January 31), contained an article by M. O. LOGINOV, a Party member of 60 years' standing and one of the 350 Old Bolsheviks who had signed the letter published in Izvestiya on November 6 (WEEKA No. 45, 1961; Embassy's A-337, November 7, 1961), once more demanding the expulsion of the "group" from the Party: "We Old Bolsheviks join our voices in the unanimous condemnation of these despicable fractionaries by the delegates to the XXII Congress of the CPSU and believe that there is not, and cannot be, any place for such people in the ranks of our Leninist Party. They must answer to the Party, to the people."

This was apparently the first authoritative call for expulsion published in the central press since Komsomol First Secretary S. P. PAVLOV's demand of November 17, 1961. Indeed, there had been an absence of authoritative references to the "group" at all between L. F. ILYICHEV's report of December 25 to the ideological conference and the January 17 Pravda article by N. INOZEMTSEV.

That the Party leadership was still troubled by the issues broached at the XXII Congress, seemed clear from an important article in Problems of Peace and Socialism, the "theoretical and informational journal of the Communist and Workers' Parties", the Russian-language edition of which is edited in Prague, but printed on Pravda's presses in Moscow. Issue No. 2 of this journal for 1962 (signed to the press January 13) publishes an article by Viktor RUDIN, entitled "The Triumph of the Leninist Principles of Party Life." It addresses itself to the problem of why the XXII CPSU Party Congress reverted to the question of the cult of personality and the "anti-Party group", since the first

matter had been dealt with at the XX Congress and the "group" had been "ideologically and organizationally destroyed" in June, 1957. Rudin writes:

" ... the transition to Communism cannot be achieved unless the historical foundation is completely and definitively cleansed. The Party could not really further develop socialist democracy if it had not told the people the full truth. It is essential, furthermore, to bear in mind that, over and above the direct crude distortions engendered by the cult of personality, there are also such of its consequences as bear a more or less open character and are still not definitively liquidated. They manifest themselves sometimes in the attitude of certain leaders towards the masses and towards rank-and-file Communists (alienation from the masses, contempt for their needs, administrationism, etc.), in an incorrect understanding of Party democracy (fuehrerism /vozhdizm/; ignoring of criticism, etc.), in the style of work (a poor knowledge of the economy; alienation from life and reluctance to study it; a striving to command; conservatism and routinism; the absence of a feeling for the new; love of the ostentatious, external side of work; a consequent desire to 'shine', which leads to the propagation of eye-wash), in dogmatic methods of thinking and a liturgical understanding of theory, etc."

These complaints appear to be directed at people still working in the apparatus of the Party.

Perhaps one more item should be added. On Friday and Saturday, January 26 and 27, Western correspondents were told by Western Communist and Soviet journalists, with remarkable unanimity, that there would be a Central Committee plenum within two weeks, at which the "anti-Party group", Albania (read: the CPR), and agriculture would be discussed. The number and variety of sources from which this information came led the Western press corps to credit it fully. They were therefore surprised when Sunday morning's Pravda announced that the Plenum would take place, not within the two weeks predicted by their sources, but on March 5.

8. Leadership: CC Plenum; Social-Science Conference; Supreme Soviet Nominations. The other principal events of the week bearing on the leadership were:

Central Committee Plenum: Pravda, January 28, announced that the Central Committee would meet in plenary session on March 5 to discuss "The Tasks of the Party in Improving the Leadership of Agriculture." "Comrade N. S. Khrushchev has been confirmed as the rapporteur."

The Plenum will also certainly discuss the other important unsolved issues confronting the Party. If the knotty problem of the "anti-Party group" has not been solved before March 5, it might appear on the agenda. The question of the position of the Soviet Communist Party vis-a-vis the other bloc Parties, and the gravest symbol of that issue, the quarrel with the Chinese Communist Party, is another probable topic. The line to be taken by the Party on de-Stalinization and on the ideological consequences of the de-Stalinization campaign has not yet been set (Embassy's Despatch No. 664, January 29, 1962). And agriculture always provides a topic of consuming interest in this country where some 40 percent of

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the working force struggles to provide itself and the rest of population with an adequate diet.

Social-Science Conference: On January 29, an All-Union Conference of the Heads of Departments of Social Science, convoked by the Central Committee of the Party, was opened in the Kremlin by CC Secretary F. R. KOZLOV. CC Secretary M. A. SUSLOV delivered the principal report, on "The XXII Congress of the CPSU and the Tasks of Departments of Social Science." As of February 2, the press had not published the text, or a summary, of this report.

The Conference, which is still going on (February 2), is of particular interest as a result of the differing evaluations the Party's two leading ideologists, Ilyichev and Suslov, have given to the significance of the ideological work done under STALIN (Despatch No. 664) and the consequent failure of the Party to law down a firm line in this area.

It was also of some interest that D. I. CHESNOKOV, Head of the Department of Philospphy at Moscow University and a leading Party ideologist under Stalin (he was a full member of the Large Presidium of the Central Committee, elected at the XIX Party Congress, and was discarded from the top Party leadership at the March 14, 1953, CC Plenum), was the first to speak in the "debate" on Suslov's report.

The Soviet press has so far been devoid of reports on the substance of what is being said at this Conference, in contrast to its publication of the summary of Ilyichev's report, and accounts of speeches from the floor, during the December 25-28 ideological conference.

Supreme Soviet Nominations: As the week ended, the press began to publish reports of nominations of members of the Presidium CC-CPSU for the post of deputy of the USSR Supreme Soviet (Izvestiya, February 1). In the past (e.g., during the Supreme Soviet election campaign in February, 1958), the practice of multiple nominations of Presidium members and candidates has been used to display to the Soviet public the relative standing of the top leaders with relation to each other. The reports of multiple nominations contained in the press of February 1 and 2 indicate that the same practice may be followed this time. At any rate, Pravda, February 2, reports that the name of N. S. Khrushchev has been put forward in 14 election districts, and those of each of the other 10 full members of the Presidium CC-CPSU, once each.

9. ...Meanwhile, Back at the Tomb..... The temporary wall around the LENIN mausoleum on Red Square, erected a week ago, was still standing on February 1. Well-constructed of high-quality wood without chinks, it extends not only around the mausoleum, but for about 50 yards to the south to another walled-off enclosure which seems designed to provide space for stone-cutting and polishing equipment. On January 31, a crane was still standing by, next to the mausoleum, and, under special work lights, workmen were placing timbers on top of the tomb, stout enough to bear extremely heavy loads on the mausoleum roof.

Inside the second enclosure, a workman was seen shoveling some kind of sand-like mixture into a tall machine, visible above the wall. The machine

emitted a noise as though it were grinding stone. Even from the windows of GUM, the department store across the way, it is difficult to get a view of exactly what is going on, but presumably the wall connecting the small enclosure with that around the mausoleum will provide cover for transferring a new name-stone to Lenin's tomb. The present stone bearing the hasty inscription "Lenin" looks make-shift and dates from the Party Congress last October. An Embassy officer saw several young Russians who were scarcely able to suppress smiles as they viewed the operation from the sidewalk in front of GUM. Passers-by of the older generation did not smile.

Semi-officially, the story in Moscow is that new equipment is being installed to replace the mausoleum's antiquated air-conditioning system.

10. Four Soviets Sentenced Under New Law for Damaging Agricultural Equipment. On December 29, 1961, the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet enacted a law providing up to three years' deprivation of liberty or corrective labor for negligence which results in damage to agricultural machinery (WEEKA No. 1, 1962). Less than one month later, the Soviet press has announced the sentencing of four citizens, presumably under the provisions of this law, although this is not specifically stated in press reports. The four are said to have used welding equipment to cut a large inventory of new machines into scrap, including: 14 reapers, 19 mowing machines, 4 hay-stackers, 2 bailers, "and a number of other machines" (Izvestiya, January 30, 1962). This wanton destruction of State property took place at the Balkhashskiy Transshipping Depot "some days ago." The director of the depot was sentenced to three years' deprivation of liberty (the maximum sentence under the December 29 decree), and the others to periods of two and a half, one and a half, and one year respectively.

COMMENT: Rapid implementation of the December 29 measure is designed to serve notice on citizens who damage machinery through neglect or otherwise; an important cause of reduced harvests.

11. Roman Catholic Churchmen Sentenced. The Prior and the Vicar of a Roman Catholic church in Klaypeda, Lithuania, and five other persons, have been convicted on charges of violating currency laws, fraudulent collection of funds for building a church in excess of actual requirements for money, and speculation in building materials (WEEKA No. 3, 1962). The Prior, Ludas PAVILONIS, was sentenced to eight years', and the Vicar, Bronyus BURNEYKIS, was sentenced to four years' deprivation of liberty with confiscation of all possessions (Sovetskaya Litva, January 27, 1962). The others were given sentences varying from five years' deprivation of liberty to six months' correctional labor.

The trial of a ring of currency speculators with whom the Catholic priests are said to have done business is now in progress. Convicted Prior Pavilonis will be called to give testimony against them. The Soviet press has played up this case, in which many of the defendants are Jews, in an anti-Semitic fashion (Despatch No. 637, January 19, 1962).

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